

Hanford 222-S Laboratory Analysis and Testing Services
Request for Proposal DE-SOL-0005750
Questions and Answers
July 9, 2014

Number	Question	Answer
1.	In an effort to clarify a question previously submitted addressing the font size to be used in any/all graphics, graphs, tables, charts, figures; the intent of the question may not have been completely communicated. Request that language be consistent with the guidance DOE-EMCBC typically includes in Section L, Instructions to Bidders, be included for this procurement.	See Amendment 001 to Section L for revised section.
2.	Page B-6, Price Schedule Notes, “4. Work associated with Pensions and Other Benefits Plans CLINs: 00005, 00009, 00013 and 00017 are to be performed on a Cost Reimbursable basis with no award fee.” 1) What specific costs items are included in the cost reimbursable CLINs? Does the associated CLINs include costs for these plans’ required testing, labor costs associated with incumbent employee Pension & Benefit program administration activities and sponsorship, such as labor cost of human resources, industrial relations, and labor agreement negotiation, etc.? 2) HEWT plan includes severance pays. Will the severance payments resulting from Hanford workforce restructuring be included in the cost reimbursable CLINs?	1) Costs for benefits outlined in Section H, Pension and Benefits, that cover Incumbent employees, as defined by the contract, are included in CLIN 00005 for the base period of the contract. Costs for the option periods for Incumbent employees are in CLINS 00009, 00013, and 00017. Costs for Non-Incumbent employees, as defined by the contract, are part of the fixed price portion of the contract. 2) If the Contractor conducts a workforce reduction, severance paid to Incumbent employees, as defined by the contract, will be reimbursed under the contract. Severance for Non-Incumbent employees, as defined by the contract, is part of the fixed price portion of the contract.
3.	There are some unique Hanford benefits for the Bargaining Union employees and HEWT incumbent employees. And these benefit costs are impossible to be estimated or controlled in advance since no one can predict how much costs will incur during the period of performance. Will these costs be included in the cost reimbursable CLINS? Unique Hanford benefit costs include items such as - Short term disability 35 days, to cover 60% pay from day 8 to day 35 of a disability or from day 1 if hospitalized; paid Union employee’s time spent on grievances or negotiation; plant injury pay for bargaining union employees	Costs associated with benefits under the HEWT for Incumbent employees, as defined by the contract, will be under the cost reimbursement portion of the contract. HEWT costs for Non-Incumbent employees, as defined by the contract, are part of the fixed price portion of the contract. Costs associated with benefits under the HEWT for Incumbent employees, as defined by the contract, will be under the cost reimbursement portion of the contract. Costs for pay or benefits not provided under the HEWT, i.e., plant injury pay, union representation

	for the first 3 full days or 4 partial days of absence due to occupational injury.	time spent on grievances, etc., are to be included in the fixed price.
4.	Page B-3, (b) “The Not to Exceed Amount for CLIN 002 is as follows:...” Should this be CLIN 00004 and with the heading as “Surges in Analytical Services – Labor Hour”?	See Amendment 001 to Section B for revised section.
5.	Section H.02 Pension and Benefit Plans (d)(5)(i) “separate Ben-Val studies are required every two years for all plans identified in paragraph (a).” In paragraph (a) it includes the Market-Based Plans. Does DOE require small business contractor to have full Ben-Val studies on the market-based plans? Conducting the Ben-Val studies is expensive. If DOE does want the small business contractor to conduct Ben-Val studies, will this item be cost reimbursable?	No, the contract will not require a Ben-Val for Market-Based Plans. To ensure clarity, Section H.02 (d)(5)(i) will be Amended to read, “separate Ben-Val studies are required every two years for all plans identified in paragraph (a)(5).” It is the intent of the contract to require Benefit Value and Cost Studies for the benefits under the cost reimbursement portion of the contract, but not for the Market Based plans.
6.	For the future years, the Bargain Union employee’s wage will be re-negotiated and determined in a CBA. If BU employee’s wage escalation is more than the current rate, in the FFP CLINs, will contractor get equitable adjustment on the firm-fixed price?	There will be no equitable adjustment for wage rates on the firm-fixed price or the firm-fixed unit rates. It is up to the Offeror to estimate wage rates to be paid to employees as part of the fixed-price/fixed unit rate proposal.